



Great Smoky Mountains National Park
www.nps.gov/grsm

Stewardship, Education

The following centennial proposal is certified as eligible for Centennial Challenge funding consideration in fiscal year 2008. Funding for the Centennial Challenge requires legislation.

Showcase Cultural Heritage of the Smokies

Location: North Carolina, Cherokee

Partner(s): Friends of the Smokies

Partner Website: www.friendsofthesmokies.org

Total Cost: \$500,000

Proposal # 95803

Summary: The park has proposed to build a new Oconaluftee Visitor Center with a 2,000-square-foot museum space near Cherokee, North Carolina. The project consists of planning, design, and fabrication of permanent exhibits that provide an understanding of cultural history in the park, including Americans Indian, European settlement, agriculture, industry, and preservation of the land. This museum would be the only permanent exhibit space in the park devoted to telling these stories, and offers a venue to showcase a portion of the park's extensive collection of historic artifacts. Many of these items were donated by former residents who were displaced by the establishment of the park. Displaying these artifacts has been a goal of park neighbors in North Carolina and this project would contribute to building healthy cooperative relationships with communities, groups, and individuals in that area.

For more information contact:

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Ocoanluftee Visitor Center